



PATENT APPLICATION

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Kenji KATOH et al.

Group Art Unit: 3748

Application No.: 10/644,869

Examiner: D. Tran

Filed: August 21, 2003

Docket No.: 116911

For: METHOD OF PURIFYING EXHAUST GAS OF AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection, Notice of Allowance, or other action that closes prosecution (e.g., Quayle Action), but before payment of the Issue Fee. Attached is our Check No. 162096 in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please credit or debit Deposit Account No. 15-0461 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.
- a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- 2. The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application.
- 3. English language Abstracts and a concise explanation of relevance of the non-English language references are attached hereto.

4. A computer-generated English language translation of the following Japanese references has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([http://www.jpo.go.jp]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 1 and 2.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: December 29, 2004

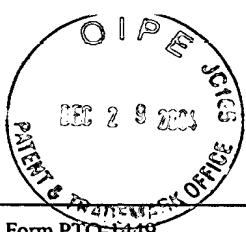
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CONCISE EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE OF
JP2000-27712, JP5-125372 AND JP48-44618

- 1) The '712 publication discloses the usage of a sulfur-solidifying agent in order to reduce the amount of SO_x in the exhaust gas of an internal combustion engine. The publication also suggests that the sulfur-solidifying agent can be used for reducing the sulfur contamination of a NO_x occluding and reducing catalyst.
- 2) The '372 publication discloses a sulfur-solidifying agent which can be added to fuel in order to reduce the amount of SO_x in the exhaust gas produced by burning of the fuel.
- 3) The '618 publication discloses a method for purifying exhaust gas of an internal combustion engine which reduces contaminant in the exhaust gas using an additive including a precious metal component such as platinum.



Sheet 1 of 1

Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)			US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 116911		APPLICATION NO. 10/644,869	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)					APPLICANT(S) Kenji KATOH et al.			
					FILING DATE August 21, 2003		GROUP 3748	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME			CLASS	SUB CLASS
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY			CLASS	SUB CLASS
	1	JP-A-2000-027712 (w/ English Abstract & Translation)	01-25-2000	Japan				
	2	JP-A-05-125372 (w/ English Abstract & Translation)	05-21-1993	Japan				
	3	JP-A-48-44618 (w/ English Abstract)	6-27-1973	Japan				
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)								
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED			
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.								